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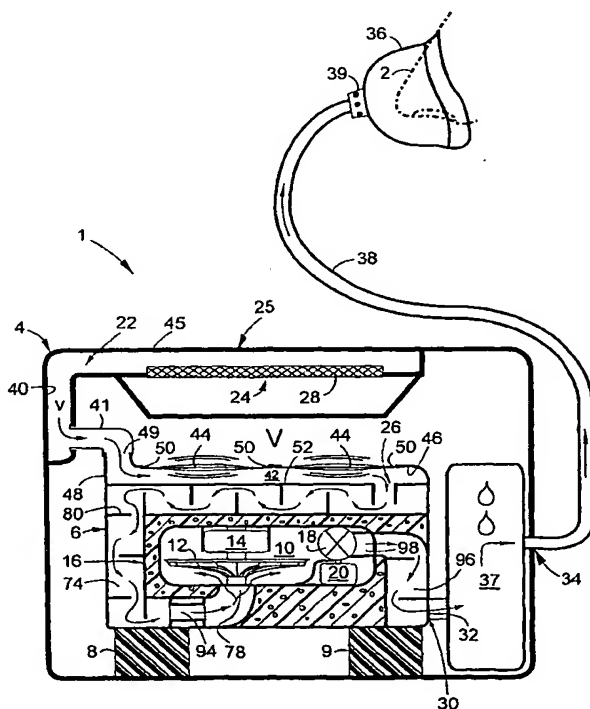
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(54) Title: VENTILATOR FOR SUPPLYING BREATHABLE GAS TO A PATIENT, AND A NOISE REDUCTION METHOD FOR SAID VENTILATOR



(57) Abstract: Ventilator (1) for supplying breathable gas to a patient, comprising: - an external housing (4); - an internal housing (6) suspended within said external housing (4); - a gas flow generator (10) located within said internal housing (6) for creating a gas flow to the patient; - a gas inlet conduit (22) extending between a first gas inlet opening (24) in said external housing (4) and a second gas inlet opening (26) in said internal housing (6), and - a gas outlet conduit (30) extending from a first gas outlet opening (32) in the internal housing (6) via a second gas outlet opening (34) in the external housing (4) and to a patient interface means (36) adapted for introducing the breathable gas into the airway of said patient. The invention is especially characterized in that one or both of the gas inlet conduit (22) and the gas outlet conduit (30) exhibits: - a first substantially rigid conduit section (40), and - a second membrane conduit section (42) having at least one flexible membrane wall portion (44), said membrane wall portion (44) separating a volume (v) of breathable gas within the gas inlet conduit (22) and/or gas outlet conduit (30) from a volume (V) of ambient air within the external housing (4), whilst allowing acoustic energy transfer between said volumes (v, V).



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